

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method to control printing of a document file delivered via a computer network comprising the steps of:

at a first computer:

encrypting at least a first portion of a document file using at least a first encryption key thereby creating a partially encrypted file;

transmitting the partially encrypted file to a second computer via said computer network;

at said second computer:

printing at least a second portion of said partially encrypted file using a serialized print methodology that includes having the printer generate a unique serialized print number for the document file in the course of printing the document file;

returning to said first computer at least a the serialized print number, and receiving, in response thereto, said first encryption key;

decrypting at the printer said first portion of said partially encrypted file to create a partially decrypted document file; and

printing at least a portion of said partially decrypted document file using a guaranteed print methodology that includes sending the first computer information about the number of printed pages and output print quality of the document file.

Claim 2 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 1 wherein said step of returning further comprises the step of providing payment.

Claim 3 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 1 further including steps of:

before transmitting the partially encrypted file to a second computer, encrypting at least part of said partially encrypted file to form a twice-encrypted file using a second encryption key; and

prior to printing at least a second portion of said partially decrypted file, decrypting said twice-encrypted file using at least one of either said second encryption key or a third encryption key.

Claim 4 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 1 wherein said serialized print methodology includes the steps of:

generating by a device printing said decrypted document file, a number correlating said decrypted document file to said printing device;

returning said number to said first computer thereby enabling said second computer to receive said first key.

Claim 5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (currently amended) A system for controlling the printing of a document file delivered via a computer network comprising:

a first computer that encrypts at least a first portion of a document file using a first key;

a data transfer device coupled said first computer capable of transferring the partially encrypted document file to a second computer;

a print mechanism operatively coupled to said data transfer device, said print mechanism capable of receiving said document file and decrypting at least a portion of said first portion of said document file and printing said first portion using a serialized print methodology that includes having the printer generate a unique serialized print number for the document file in the course of printing the document file; and

printing at least a portion of said decrypted document file using a guaranteed print methodology that includes sending the first computer information about the number of printed pages and output print quality of the document file.

Claim 7 (original) The system of claim 6 wherein said print mechanism is comprised of a computer operatively coupled to a printer.

Claim 8 (original) The system of claim 6 wherein said print mechanism is comprised of a printer capable of generating serialized output.

Claim 9 (original) The system of claim 6 wherein said print mechanism is comprised of a printer capable of guaranteeing output print quality.

Claim 10 (currently amended) Apparatus for controlling the printing of a document file delivered via a computer network, comprising:

a first computer coupled to a data transfer mechanism, said first computer capable of receiving via said data transfer mechanism, at least one partially encrypted document file from a second computer;

a print mechanism operatively coupled to said first computer, said print mechanism being capable of decrypting at least a portion of the encrypted file and printing at least a portion of said partially encrypted document file using a serialized print methodology that includes having the printer generate a unique serialized print number for the document file in the course of printing the document file; and
printing at least a portion of said partially decrypted document file using a guaranteed print methodology that includes sending the first computer information about the number of printed pages and output print quality of the document file.

Claim 11 (currently amended) Apparatus for controlling the printing of a document file delivered via a computer network comprising:

a first computer coupled to ~~a data transfer mechanism~~ an Internet connection, said first computer capable of receiving data from a remote printer via said ~~data transfer mechanism~~ Internet connection, at least one partially encrypted document file from a second computer; and

a networked print mechanism operatively coupled to said first computer via the Internet, said print mechanism being capable of decrypting at least a portion of the

encrypted file and printing at least a portion of said partially encrypted document file using a ~~guaranteed~~ serialized print methodology that includes having the printer generate a unique serialized print number for the document file in the course of printing the document file; and

printing at least a portion of said partially decrypted document file using a guaranteed print methodology that includes sending via the Internet the first computer information about the number of printed pages and output print quality of the document file.

Claim 12 (currently amended) A method of controlling the printing of a document delivered via a computer network comprising the steps of:

printing a first portion of the document with a remote printer, said first portion being unencrypted;

communicating, via the computer network, with an entity associated with the document to arrange for the printing of a remaining portion of the document;

receiving, as a result of said communicating step, an encrypted remaining portion of the document;

using the printer to ~~decrypting~~ decrypt said remaining portion; and

printing said decrypted remaining portion using a guaranteed print methodology that includes sending information about the number of printed pages and output print quality of the document file; and

using a serialized print methodology that includes having the printer generate a unique serialized print number for the document file in the course of printing the document file.

Claim 13 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 12 wherein said communicating step further comprises the step of providing payment to said entity.

Claim 14 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 12 wherein said communicating step further comprises the step of ascertaining quality of said printed first portion.

Claim 15 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 12 further comprises the step of generating a number correlating said document to a printing device printing said first portion.

Claim 16 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 15 wherein said step of communicating further comprises the step of communicating said generated number.

Claim 17 (currently amended) A method of controlling the printing of a document delivered via a computer network to a user, comprising of the steps of:

encrypting a portion of the document;

transmitting an unencrypted portion of the document via the computer network to the user for printing;

receiving a communication related to a reception of said unencrypted portion by the user; and

transmitting said encrypted portion of the document to the user via the computer network in response to said receiving step;

using a printer to decrypt at least a portion of the encrypted file and printing at least a portion of said encrypted document file using a serialized print methodology that includes having the printer generate a unique serialized print number for the document file in the course of printing the document file; and

printing at least a portion of said decrypted document file using a guaranteed print methodology that includes sending the first computer information about the number of printed pages and output print quality of the document file.

Claim 18 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 17 wherein said receiving step further comprises the step of receiving a payment for the document.

Claim 19 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 17 wherein said receiving step further comprises the step of receiving a proof that said unencrypted

portion of the document was satisfactorily printed.

Claim 20 (currently amended) A method of controlling the printing of a partially encrypted document file delivered via a computer network, at least a first portion of which partially encrypted document is encrypted using at least a first encryption key, comprising the steps of:

printing using a printer at least a second portion of the partially encrypted document file;

creating a serialized print number that includes having the printer generate a unique serialized print number for the document file in the course of printing the document file and returning the serialized print number via the computer network;

receiving the first encryption key;

using the printer to decrypt ~~decrypting~~ the first portion to create a decrypted document file; and

printing said decrypted document file using a guaranteed print methodology that includes sending the first computer information about the number of printed pages and output print quality of the document file.

Claim 21 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 20 further comprising the step of providing payment for the partially encrypted document.

Claim 22 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 20 wherein at least part of the partially encrypted document file is further encrypted to form a twice-encrypted file using a second encryption key, further comprising the step of prior to printing at least a second portion of said partially decrypted document file, decrypting said twice-encrypted file using at least said second encryption key.

Claim 23 (original) A method in accordance with the method of claim 21 wherein said step of creating a serialized print number further comprises the step of generating, by a device printing said decrypted document file, a number correlating said decrypted document file to said printing device.